

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CB, CH

SUBJECT: KHMER COMMUNISM EDGES OUT OF THE CLOSET

1. KHMER RHETORIC ON THE OCCASION OF MAO'S DEATH HAS PROVIDED THE CLEAREST PUBLIC STATEMENT YET THAT THE CAMBODIAN REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATION" IS A MARXIST-LENINIST PARTY. THE FIRST PUBLIC HINT CAME SEPTEMBER 10TH WHEN PHNOM PENH RADIO NOTED THAT CAMBODIAN FLAGS WOULD FLY AT HALF MAST TO JOIN THE MOURNING OF THE "FRATERNAL CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY, GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE".

2. PRIME MINISTER POL POT PROVIDED A DEFINITIVE STATEMENT OF KHMER IDEOLOGY DURING HIS SEPT. 18TH EULOGY OF MAO. HE SAID, "THE CAMBODIAN REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATION AND CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY AND OUR TWO PEOPLES RESOLUTELY ADHERE TO MARXISM-LENINISM...".

3. COMMENT: THE KHMER HAVE NEVER BEFORE OPENLY STATED
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THEIR ALLEGIANCE TO MARXISM-LENINISM. THESE TWIN STATE-

MENTS GIVE THE FIRMEST PUBLIC STATEMENT OF IDEOLOGY AND
CLEAREST HINT THAT THE REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATION IS IN
FACT THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF KAMPUCHEA.

HABIB

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